

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 IO-10 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05

OES-03 OMB-01 L-02 H-01 SS-15 AID-05 DODE-00 IGA-01

HEW-02 /074 W

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R 131800Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6123

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR CO

SUBJECT: US COOPERATION/ASSISTANCE IN SELECTIVE FOREIGN DRUG ABUSE  
PREVENTION ACTIVITIES.

DEPT PLEASE PASS CANDACE COWAN FOR AMBASSADOR VANCE

REF: STATE 241812 254205

1. THE MISSION IS INTERESTED COOPERATE WITH GOC EFFORTS  
IN FIELD OF DRUG PREVENTION/REHABILITATION. THERE IS  
PRESENTLY MODERATE BUT INCREASING EFFORT ON PART GOC AND  
PRIVATE SECTOR TO PROCEED IN ALL ASPECTS OF PROBLEM.  
MISSION BELIEVES THAT WELL ORGANIZED USG ASSISTANCE TO THESE  
EFFORTS WOULD HELP STIMULATE GOC TO CONTINUE POSITIVE EFFORTS  
AT DRUG TRAFFIC PREVENTION.

2. RESUME OF GOC PROGRESS TO DATE AND USG ASSISTANCE:

A. USAID HAS PROGRAMMED \$5,000,000 PESOS IN THE HEALTH  
SECTOR LOAN FOR "DRUG STUDIES" AND THE GOC IS GIVING LIMITED  
SUPPORT TO VARIOUS DRUG PREVENTION ACTIVITIES IN COLOMBIA.

B. IN OUR ACTION PLAN WE HAVE PROGRAMMED \$12,000 U.S. TO  
ASSIST IN MAJOR DRUG SURVEY.

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C. THE BIENESTAR FAMILIAR DIVISION OF GOC PUBLIC HEALTH HAS SPONSORED VARIOUS SEMINARS IN COLOMBIA, SOME OF WHICH HAVE RECEIVED LIMITED U.S. ASSISTANCE.

D. A COMMITTEE OF INTERESTED PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS, BUSINESS LEADERS AND OTHERS HAVE DEVELOPED A CHARTER WITH A GOAL TOWARDS OPENING A REHABILITATION CENTER IN BOGOTA. THIS PROJECT WILL RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM GOC PUBLIC HEALTH, PRIVATE SECTOR AND THEY MAY SEEK U.S. ASSISTANCE.

E. LARGELY THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF A LOCAL PSYCHIATRIST A REHABILITATION CENTER HAS BEEN OPERATING IN BUCARAMANGA FOR OVER A YEAR. THIS DOCTOR ATTENDED A TWO-WEEK DRUG SEMINAR IN THE US LAST SUMMER AND HAS ATTEMPTED TO STIMULATE SUFFICIENT INTEREST IN THE GOC TO CONDUCT A SIMILAR SEMINAR IN COLOMBIA.

F. THE SMITH KLEINE AND FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE, OTHER BUSINESSMEN, AND PROFESSIONALS IN CALI HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED AN APPROVED CHARTER FROM THE GOVERNOR OF VALLE DEPARTMENT FOR A REHABILITATION EFFORT WHICH IS FUNCTIONING ON A SMALL SCALE AT THE PRESENT TIME. THEY HAVE REQUESTED LIMITED U.S. ASSISTANCE.

G. THERE ARE REHABILITATION EFFORTS IN BARRANQUILLA, NEIVA AND MEDELLIN.

H. USIS COLOMBIA HAS SPONSORED SEMINARS IN BINATIONAL CENTERS IN BOGOTA, MEDELLIN, BARRANQUILLA, AND SEVERAL SMALLER CITIES DRAWING ATTENTION TO INCREASED DRUG TRAFFIC AND DANGERS OF DRUG ABUSE. WITH COOPERATION OF USIS BOGOTA, THE EMBASSY NARCOTICS COMMITTEE HAS MADE PROGRESS IN STIMULATING PRESS AND TELEVISION INTEREST IN THE DRUG TRAFFIC PROBLEM. MISSION CONSIDERS PUBLIC AWARENESS OF PROBLEM VALUABLE ASSET IN FIGHT AGAINST ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFIC.

3. TO DATE, EMBASSY NARCOTICS COMMITTEE HAS WORKED WITH PREVENTION/REHABILITATION GROUPS AND MEDIA ON AN AD HOC BASIS WITH POSITIVE RESULTS BUT ENCOURAGE IDEA OF A LONGER RANGE, BETTER ORGANIZED APPROACH TOWARD ASSISTANCE IN THESE FIELDS.

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4. USIA (WASHINGTON) PRESENTLY CONSIDERING PRODUCING FILM ON DRUG TRAFFIC IN HEMISPHERE AND NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. MISSION EFFORT WOULD PROFIT FROM FILM AND STATE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT FOR PROJECT COULD PROVE BENEFICIAL.

5. TENTATIVE PROPOSALS:

A. CONTINUE OUR PRESENT AD HOC EFFORTS.

B. BEGIN CONCRETE PLANS FOR CONDUCTING A LARGE SCALE SEMINAR IN COLOMBIA, TO INCLUDE GOC, COLOMBIAN PRIVATE SECTOR PERSONNEL, THIRD COUNTRY AND U.S. PROFESSIONALS TO FOCUS ON THE COLOMBIAN SITUATION. THE PURPOSE OF THE SEMINAR WOULD BE TO HELP COLOMBIAN EXPERTS ORIENT THEIR NASCENT PROGRAMS TO BEST SUIT THEIR NEEDS.

C. CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITIES OF HIRING LOCAL AMERICAN TO ASSIST NARCOTICS COORDINATOR TO COORDINATE EVALUATE AND MONITOR U.S. AND GOC EFFORTS IN PREVENTION/REHABILITATION FIELD.

D. PLAN A NATIONAL MEDIA SEMINAR FOR LATE SPRING OR SUMMER 75 TO FOCUS ALL MEDIA ON MAGNITUDE OF TRAFFIC AND ABUSE.

6. EMBASSY NARCOTICS COMMITTEE AWAITING ARRIVAL OF NEW COMMITTEE COORDINATOR EARLY FEBRUARY. MISSION PREFERS POSTPONE CONCRETE COMMITMENTS PENDING HIS ARRIVAL.

7. WHILE GOC AND PRIVATE EFFORTS IN THESE FIELDS HAVE MOVED FORWARD WITH SOME MOMENTUM, THE YOUTH AND DIVERSITY OF GROUPS INVOLVED PRECLUDES FOR THE MOMENT A CLEAR SYNTHESIS OF WHERE THEY ARE GOING. EMBASSY NARCOTICS COMMITTEE AT PRESENT INFORMALLY SUGGESTING NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DRUGS AND MINISTRY OF HEALTH TO OUTLINE WHAT THEIR NEEDS MAY BE. IDEAS PRESENTED IN SECTION FOUR ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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